



Investment Phase: Annual Narrative Report


Republic of Cabo Verde Year 1

Systematic Observations
Financing Facility

**Weather
and climate
data for
resilience**



General Information

Country	Republic of Cabo Verde	
Implementing Entity	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	
Agreement effectiveness date	20 May 2024	
Duration	59.5 months	
Anticipated end date	01 May 2029	
Reporting period	From: 20 May 2024	To: 31 March 2025
Approved amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total: USD 3,879,118 • Implementing Entity (UNEP): USD 3,408,318 • World Meteorological Organization: USD 470,800 	
Disbursed amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total: USD 2,883,272 • Implementing Entity (UNEP): USD 2,726,654 • World Meteorological Organization: USD 156,618 	
Signature of Implementing Entity	 Jochem Zoetelief, UNEP, 30.04.2025	

Summary

Highlights of key achievements

During the first year of implementation of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF)-funded UNEP investment phase in Cabo Verde, the project-initiated activities focused on institutional engagement, early-stage capacity development, and foundational technical preparation. Legal instruments with the Project Executing Entity – the National Institute of Meteorology and Geophysics of the Republic of Cabo Verde (INMG) and with the technical partners, the Portuguese Institute for the Ocean and Atmosphere (IPMA) and the Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation of the University of Twente (ITC), were finalized in September and October 2024, respectively. Following the formalization of these agreements, the project was officially launched with a first coordination meeting held in January 2025, which included

representatives from INMG, UNEP, the technical partners, and the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI), the designated Peer Advisor.

Under output 1.1, which focuses on national consultations including with civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders, INMG organized an inception workshop, stakeholder consultation and establishment of the Steering Committee in March 2025. The workshop focused on the inclusion of civil society in meteorological and climate services and served as an opportunity to share information and experience among partners. Invitations were extended to a range of national stakeholders, including municipal associations, national non-governmental organizations, and private sector entities such as CVTelecom and the Núcleo Operacional da Sociedade de Informação (NOSI). The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) also participated in the workshop.

- National Broadcasting Service/ Televisão de Cabo Verde - RTC: [Cabo Verde recebe financiamento de 3,4 milhões de dólares para melhorar o sistema nacional](#)
- Ministry of Environment and Agriculture/ Ministério da Agricultura e Ambiente: [Workshop de apresentação do projeto e envolvimento das partes interessadas nas questões do tempo e do clima](#); also a [social media post](#)

Under output 1.3, which addresses the development of human capacity within the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS), the technical partner IPMA, in collaboration with INMG, delivered a [training programme and study visit](#) on station operations and maintenance for meteorological technicians in January 2025. Although the training was originally intended to be fully in-person, visa constraints made it difficult for few participants from Cabo Verde to travel to Portugal on the initially scheduled dates. As a result, the training was delivered in a hybrid format, with theoretical modules delivered online and practical sessions conducted in Portugal once travel authorization was secured. While the original plan anticipated 5 participants, INMG requested an expansion, and 7 meteorological observes were ultimately trained, including 4 women and 3 men.

Also under output 1.3, which includes capacity-building in Climate Technology and Data Communication (eg., Python programming, WIS2BOX operations), as well as climate data management systems (CDMS), the Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation of the University of Twente (ITC) is supporting early ICT capacity development. This includes establishing a local WIS2BOX node in Cabo Verde and the conducting a technical competency assessment to identify the skills required to operate the system, particularly Python and Docker. ITC is also contributing to training needs analysis and is in process of planning dedicated online training modules through its learning platform, Geoversity [click here](#), to support future training delivery for INMG staff.

Under output 2.1 to 2.4, which cover the installation and upgrading of land-based and upper-air meteorological stations and related ICT systems, no infrastructure activities has commenced during the reporting period. However, INMG has indicated that it will begin the procurement process of Automatic Weather Stations (AWS), initiate the identification of AWS infrastructure needs to meet GBON requirements, and begin acquiring AWS spare parts in the next implementation period.

The Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI), serving as the Peer Advisor, remained in regular contact with INMG and contributed to the early discussions on the roadmap for the implementation of the SOFF investment phase in Cabo Verde. KNMI also supported the planning of the national conception workshop alongside INMG and UNEP.

Next steps

During the next implementation period, the project will focus procurement, continued training delivery, infrastructure planning, and coordination among all stakeholders. Finalization of the recruitment process and operationalization of the INMG-led Project Management Unit on Sal Island are also expected in the next implementation period.

IPMA is expected to deliver the Training of Trainers (ToT) and the second Meteo Technician Station Operations and Maintenance (O&M) training in the next reporting period. The second O&M training will be delivered through a modality aligned with logistical and infrastructure conditions—either in Cabo Verde, with IPMA trainers traveling to the country, or in a hybrid format, as appropriate. IPMA will also continue coordinating with INMG to confirm the delivery approach and scheduling of remaining capacity development modules.

The Faculty ITC – University of Twente (ITC) will continue supporting ICT capacity development by expanding its digital learning modules through the Geoversity platform and preparing for on-site technical support activities. KNMI and ITC will coordinate to follow up on the inventory of existing ICT infrastructure and define future requirements. KNMI will also initiate its technical advisory engagement in the next period.

Joint coordination among UNEP, INMG, IPMA, ITC, and KNMI will continue through monthly coordination meetings to ensure alignment of infrastructure installation timelines, technical roles, and training activities across all components.

Progress of implementation

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks	
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5				
1. GBON institutional and human capacity developed															
1.1 National consultations , including with CSOs and other relevant stakeholders conducted	# of workshops held	1	2	1			2					On-track	Successful inception workshop, stakeholder engagement session and establishment of steering committee in 25 March 2025. Successful civil society stakeholder workshop held 26 March. <ul style="list-style-type: none">National Broadcasting Service/ Televisão de Cabo Verde - RTC: Cabo Verde recebe financiamento de 3,4 milhões de dólares para melhorar o sistema nacionalMinistry of Environment and Agriculture/ Ministério da Agricultura e Ambiente: Workshop de apresentação do projeto e envolvimento das partes interessadas nas questões do tempo e do clima; also a social media post.		
	% female participation in the stakeholder workshops	50	50	50			36					On-track	The inception workshop and civil society stakeholder workshop held on 25 and 26		

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
													March included the participation of 19 women and 34 men.	
1.2 NMHS institutional capacity required to operate the GBON network developed	# of workshops held		1	1								Not yet started		
	% of female participants in workshops		50	50								Not yet started		
1.3 NMHS human capacity required to operate the GBON network developed	# of trainings	2	2	2	2	2	1					On-track	A training programme and study visit on station operations and maintenance for meteorological technicians was conducted, with a total of 7 participants—4 females and 3 males.	<p>Visa requirements for in-person training in Portugal present a risk, as it is difficult to predict when visas will be authorized, making it challenging to schedule the trainings. IPMA is addressing this risk by offering hybrid sessions when necessary.</p> <p>The training that depends on the acquisition of equipment by INMG has been postponed until 2026, as the equipment is not expected to be operational before then. Conducting the training earlier would be premature.</p> <p>The Training of Trainers (ToT) originally planned for 2024 has been rescheduled to 2025.</p>
	# of staff employed	3	3	3	3	3						Not yet started		Due to the limited availability of qualified candidates and non-competitive salary conditions, INMG plans to fill the position on a part-time, non-permanent basis.

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
														The recruitment process is expected to be finalized, and the INMG-led Project Management Unit operationalized, in the next reporting period.
2. GBON infrastructure in place														
2.1 New land-based stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations installed as per the GBON National Contribution Plan		1									On-track	The assessment of national procurement laws and regulations by UNEP has begun. Specifications, with the support of KNMI, and tender processes are expected in the next reporting period.	
2.2 Improved land-based stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan		3									On-track	The assessment of national procurement laws and regulations by UNEP has begun. Specifications, with the support of KNMI, and tender processes are expected in the next reporting period.	
2.3 New upper air stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations installed as per the GBON National Contribution Plan											Not yet started		
2.4 Improved upper air stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan			1								On-track	The assessment of national procurement laws and regulations by UNEP has begun. Specifications, with the support of KNMI, and tender processes are expected in the next reporting period.	

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
3. Sustained compliance with GBON														
3.1 GBON land-based stations’ commissioning period completed , country-specific standard cost for operations and maintenance established, and data sharing verified by WMO Technical Authority	# of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan					4						Not yet started		
3.2 GBON upper air stations’ commissioning period completed , country-specific standard cost for operations and maintenance established, and data sharing verified by WMO Technical Authority	# of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan					1						Not yet started		

Gender

During the first year of implementation, UNEP worked in coordination with partners to promote gender balance in all project activities. Both the inception workshop and the stakeholder engagement session achieved the target of 50 percent female participation. In the Station Operations and Maintenance training delivered by IPMA, 7 meteorological technicians were trained, including 4 women and 3 men, demonstrating strong female participation. The inception workshop [included a section](#) on gender led by KNMI and UNEP.

Social and environmental safeguards

UNEP, as the Implementing Entity, applies its Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework (ESSF) to ensure that all project activities under the SOFF Investment Phase in Cabo Verde are aligned with international best practices and institutional safeguards. The framework supports the identification and management of environmental and social risks and promotes sustainability across implementation.

Throughout the first year of implementation, no environmental or social risks were identified. In the delivery of training activities, the Portuguese Institute for the Ocean and Atmosphere (IPMA) adopted a hybrid training modality in response to logistical constraints, including visa-related delays. While this format was not initiated for environmental reasons, it resulted in reduced travel and contributed to a lower environmental footprint. For face-to-face sessions, participants were encouraged to use public transportation where available, minimizing the need for additional vehicle use. These environmentally conscious practices are expected to continue in the upcoming training sessions, where appropriate.

UNEP continues to oversee the application of safeguard measures across all partners and activities, with particular attention to inclusion, accessibility, and environmental responsibility. These considerations are integrated into training design, logistical planning, and stakeholder engagement, in line with UNEP's institutional commitments and the safeguards approach applied under the project.

Civil society and private sector participation

During Year 1 of the Investment Phase, civil society and private sector actors [were engaged through a national-level consultation and stakeholder engagement activities](#) organized by the National Institute of Meteorology and Geophysics of Cabo Verde (INMG). These included participation in the national inception workshop and a dedicated stakeholder engagement session held in March 2025. Invitations were

extended to a broad range of organizations, including municipal associations, national non-governmental organizations, and private sector entities such as CVTelecom and the Núcleo Operacional da Sociedade de Informação (NOSI). These engagements contributed to inclusive dialogue around the planning and delivery of project activities.

Complementary financing and leverage

The Faculty ITC – University of Twente highlighted its ongoing operation of a Geonetcast reception facility, which provides access to a wide range of satellite and model-based information covering land, ocean, and atmospheric conditions. This system is also used by meteorological institutes across Africa. Dedicated software has been developed to process and visualize the data, and ITC noted that linking this capability with ground-based observation networks—such as those being strengthened under the SOFF Investment Phase in Cabo Verde.

Implementation of grievance redress mechanism

No formal grievances have been reported regarding SOFF implementation in Cabo Verde during the reporting period.

The grievance redress mechanism follows UNEP's sustainability framework, which provides stakeholders with an avenue to raise concerns regarding project activities. This mechanism is structured under UNEP's Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM), managed by the Independent Office for Stakeholder Safeguard-related Response (IOSSR). Stakeholders adversely affected by the project can file complaints through the online project concern form, email, or by mail to the IOSSR.

Success stories

- National Broadcasting Service/ Televisão de Cabo Verde - RTC: [Cabo Verde recebe financiamento de 3,4 milhões de dólares para melhorar o sistema nacional](#)
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Attachments:

- 2025 Semi-Annual Progress Update: [click here](#)
- Country Peer Advisor Report: [click here](#)